

Amendments to the claims

1-45. (canceled).

46. (currently amended) An apparatus for collecting surface electromyographic (EMG) signals from a patient, comprising:

a plurality of electrodes, wherein each electrode includes a front side and a back side, wherein the front side includes a patient contacting surface thereon, and wherein the back side is in connection with an electrical conducting element;

a support member that is sufficiently flexible to conform to the contours of a skin surface of a patient, wherein the support member includes:

a plurality of apertures therethrough, wherein the apertures are arranged in a predetermined pattern, wherein the electrodes extend in the ~~apertures~~ apertures and are in releaseable supporting connection with the support member;

a front face, wherein the front face includes an adhesive thereon, wherein the adhesive has sufficient adhesive strength to adhere the support member to the skin surface of the patient and enables the support member to be removed from the skin surface of the patient with a less than harmful removal force, and wherein the

front side of each electrode is positioned relative to the front face such that when the support member is adhesively adhered to the patient, the front side of each electrode contacts the skin surface of the patient;

a rear face, wherein the back side of each electrode is adjacent the rear face;

a plurality of flexible support discs with diameters larger than the apertures of the support member, wherein each support disc is positioned over each aperture in releasable connection with the rear face of the support member, wherein each support disc releaseably supports at least one electrode in each aperture, wherein the support discs are adhesively attached to the support member and the back side of each electrode.

47-48. (canceled)

49. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim ~~47~~ 46, wherein each support disc includes an opening therein, whereby electrically conducting elements can be connected to the back side of each electrode through the opening.

50. (currently amended) ~~The apparatus according to claim 46, further comprising~~ An apparatus for collecting surface electromyographic (EMG) signals from a patient, comprising:

a plurality of electrodes, wherein each electrode includes a front side and a back side, wherein the front side includes a patient contacting surface thereon, and wherein the back side is in connection with an electrical conducting element;

a support member that is sufficiently flexible to conform to the contours of a skin surface of a patient, wherein the support member includes:

a plurality of apertures therethrough, wherein the apertures are arranged in a predetermined pattern, wherein the electrodes extend in the apertures and are in releaseable supporting connection with the support member;

a front face, wherein the front face includes an adhesive thereon, wherein the adhesive has sufficient adhesive strength to adhere the support member to the skin surface of the patient and enables the support member to be removed from the skin surface of the patient with a less than harmful removal force, and wherein the front side of each electrode is positioned relative to the front face such that when the support member is adhesively adhered to the patient, the front side of each electrode contacts the skin surface of the patient;

a rear face, wherein the back side of each electrode is adjacent the rear face;

a support pad, wherein each electrode is positioned in supporting connection with the support pad in the predetermined pattern, ~~wherein the support member includes a rear face~~, wherein the rear face of the support member includes a second adhesive thereon, wherein the second adhesive is operative to adhesively connect the support pad adjacent the support member such that the electrodes are aligned with and extend in the apertures in the support member, wherein the second adhesive enables the support pad to be removed from the support member without damaging the support pad or the electrodes.

51. (original) The apparatus according to claim 50, wherein the support pad includes a plurality of electrically conducting elements in electrical connection with each electrode.

52. (original) The apparatus according to claim 51, wherein the support pad includes a plurality of openings therethrough, wherein the electrodes are mounted in the openings, and wherein the electrically conducting elements are in electrical connection with the electrodes through the openings.

53. (currently amended) ~~The apparatus according to claim 46, further comprising~~ An apparatus for collecting surface electromyographic (EMG) signals from a patient, comprising:

a plurality of electrodes, wherein each electrode includes a front side and a back side, wherein the front side includes a patient contacting surface thereon, and wherein the back side is in connection with an electrical conducting element;

a support member that is sufficiently flexible to conform to the contours of a skin surface of a patient, wherein the support member includes:

a plurality of apertures therethrough, wherein the apertures are arranged in a predetermined pattern, wherein the electrodes extend in the apertures and are in releaseable supporting connection with the support member;

a front face, wherein the front face includes an adhesive thereon, wherein the adhesive has sufficient adhesive strength to adhere the support member to the skin surface of the patient and enables the support member to be removed from the skin surface of the patient with a less than harmful removal force, and wherein the front side of each electrode is positioned relative to the front face such that when the support member is adhesively adhered to the patient, the front side of each electrode contacts the skin surface of the patient;

a rear face, wherein the back side of each electrode is adjacent the rear face;

an adjustable holster belt, wherein the holster belt is operative to support electrical conditioning components adjacent the patient, wherein when the support member and electrodes are in operative connection with the skin of a patient, the holster belt enables the creation of a relatively short electrical connection between the electrical conditioning components and the electrodes.

54. (original) The apparatus according to claim 53, wherein the holster belt includes a pouch, wherein the electrical conditioning components are supported in the pouch.

55-75. (canceled).